

him a close friend and certainly will miss the wise counsel he has given me over the years. He is one of the true unsung heroes who make things work around the people's House. We will miss Bill, but he has earned his retirement. I salute Bill Brown on a job well done and wish Bill, Jean, and Sara the best in the future.

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WILLIAM HOLMES BROWN; HOUSE  
PARLIAMENTARIAN

[From the Washington Post, Tuesday, May 29, 2001]

William Holmes Brown, 71, parliamentarian of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1974 until 1994 and author of "House Practice: A Guide to the Rules, Precedents and Procedures of the House," died of a vascular ailment May 27 at Loudoun Hospital Center.

He lived at Oakland Green Farm, the Lincoln property his family has owned for more than eight generations.

Mr. Brown served under six speakers of the House as an adviser on procedure and practice. He began as assistant parliamentarian in 1958 and collaborated with parliamentarian Lewis Deschler in volumes of "Precedents of the House of Representatives." They are referred to in the House as the Deschler-Brown Precedents.

Mr. Brown also worked on behalf of the House on parliamentary development projects in Eastern Europe and Mozambique. He participated in seminars in Poland, Estonia, Slovakia, Albania and Romania and in training programs in the United States for representatives of other national legislative bodies.

After he retired, he worked for the Agency for International Development on a parliamentary development project in Ukraine.

Mr. Brown was a native of Huntington, W.Va. He was a graduate of Swarthmore College and the University of Chicago's law school. He served in the Navy in the Middle East and the Mediterranean and remained in the Navy Reserve until 1974.

He was a director of the Conversations at Oaklands organization and the Loudoun Museum and a member of the Catocin Farmers Club and the Goose Creek Friends Meeting.

Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Jean Smith Brown, and a daughter, Sara Holmes Brown, both of Lincoln.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### THE NATURE AND IMPORTANCE OF ENERGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I would like to say a few words about the energy issues that face this country. I believe that energy is one of the most misunderstood topics in this Nation, and I believe that is largely because energy is so hard to describe and define.

Most of us do not know what it is. We cannot see it, we cannot feel it, we cannot touch it, we cannot weigh it. When you were a little kid, your mother never sent you to the store for a bottle

of energy. You cannot buy energy that way. Yet, somehow we know what it is, because we talk about it when we get up in the morning, saying "Oh, we do not have much energy;" or, "Oh, we really have a lot of energy today;" we are raring to go. And that is a pretty good perception of what energy actually is.

I happen to be a physicist, and energy in physics is defined as the ability to do work. So that fits our everyday conception of energy, the ability to do work.

Now, in today's society, we depend a lot on energy to do our work. We use energy constantly in transportation, in the workplace, in so many different ways, and it is extremely important. So often we forget the importance of energy, because we are so used to it.

But if you look at the major historical revolutions, the nonmilitary revolutions, you will find that the first major revolution, the agriculture revolution, occurred when people, for the first time began using labor other than their own, namely the labor of animals. The agriculture revolution did not succeed until people began using animals for plowing, for milling, and for other works of labor.

The second major revolution, the industrial revolution, took place when, for the first time, we began using non-human energy and non-animal energy, but instead used mechanical energy and heat energy, and that has led to the world we enjoy today, with its many different sources of energy, used for many, many different purposes.

But we tend to take energy for granted and do not realize its importance until there is a shortage, particularly when prices go up, because when the prices go up, it affects the economy. Energy is so vital to our economy that whenever we have a shortage of energy and prices go up, the economy is affected dramatically. It is no coincidence that the last three major recessions we have had in this country have followed on the heels of energy shortages.

Now, what is energy? I said you cannot feel it, touch it, handle it. As a physicist, I understand what energy is, but it is hard to explain it to a lay person, and for that reason sometimes I wish that energy were purple.

If it were purple, we could see it, we could understand it. If we could drive up to our homes and see purple energy leaking out from around the windows during the winter and we would see purple oozing through the walls, we would recognize we are wasting money, because we have not insulated the house well enough or sealed the windows well enough.

Or suppose we are driving down the highway: if we see a little car going by with just a little bit of purple around it, and then see an SUV going by with just clouds of purple around it, we would immediately recognize that one uses far less energy than another. That is the type of awareness we have to build in the people of this country.

Let me relate that to one specific State. We all know that California is having tremendous energy problems. There are many reasons for it and many possible solutions, but I can tell you that the fastest, cheapest solution of all is energy conservation and energy efficiency. That can be implemented quickly. It can be used to solve the crisis, it can be used to reduce demand and drive the prices down in California, and certainly put the State on a better keel. I hope that California pursues it, and I hope that our Federal government helps them pursue that alternative.

Now, there is so much more I could say about this, and I plan to do a 1 hour speech on this later on. But I wanted to give this introductory speech at this point, outlining some of the characteristics of energy, how important it is to our Nation and our economy, and how totally dependent we are on it.

It is an issue that we must deal with. We must deal with it intelligently, using every possible means; not just energy conservation and energy efficiency, although I think they are extremely important, but also looking at alternative sources of energy and more wisely using the resources we have now.

The answer is not simply drilling holes in the ground, the answer is not simply insulating houses, but looking at every aspect of our use of energy and saying how can we use it better, how can we use it more efficiently, how can we really accomplish something worthwhile in our energy use, without depleting our natural resources.

One last comment about energy. There are two very important aspects you must remember about energy. First, energy is our most basic natural resource, because without energy, we cannot use any of our other basic resources. We cannot use iron, steel, copper and so forth, without digging it out of the ground and forming it and fabricating it. All of this requires energy.

The second important point about energy is that it is the only non-renewable resource. Once you use it, it is gone. We can renew all our other resources; that one we cannot. So let us be certain to use energy right and not waste it.

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#### THE CONTINUING CRISIS OF HIV/ AIDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISSA). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this moment because of the fact that the AIDS/HIV epidemic continues to plague America and, in actuality, continues to plague much of the world. I take this opportunity to commend the Congressional Black Caucus, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and the